

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

### Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:  
acquisition means for acquiring data of an electronic program guide;  
electronic program guide display controlling means for controlling the display of said electronic program guide based on data of said electronic program guide acquired by said acquisition means;  
selection means for selecting a preset program based on said electronic program guide controlled as to display by said electronic program guide display controlling means;  
verifying means for verifying whether or not said program selected by said selecting means is a program of a channel that is receivable,  
wherein the verifying means verifies that the program selected by the user may be received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user an alert message is displayed in the electronic program guide;  
output information controlling means for controlling the information output for having the viewer recognize that, if the program selected by said selection means is verified as not being a program of a channel that is receivable, said program is not receivable,  
command means for commanding display of a chat; and  
chat display controlling means for controlling the display of a chat window so

that, when display of the chat is commanded by said command means, the chat window display is not overlapped with the display of the electronic program guide;

~~retrieval means for retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and icon display controlling means for controlling the display so that an icon associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said output information controlling means displays a background picture if the program selected by said selection means is not receivable.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising:  
an acquisition step of acquiring data of an electronic program guide;  
an electronic program guide display controlling step of controlling the display of said electronic program guide based on data of said electronic program guide acquired by processing in said acquisition step;

a selection step of selecting a preset program based on said electronic program guide controlled as to-display by processing in said electronic program guide display controlling step;

a verifying step of verifying whether or not said program selected by processing in said selecting step is a program of a channel that is receivable,

wherein the verifying step verifies that the program selected by the user may be received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user an alert message is displayed in the electronic program guide;

an output information controlling step of controlling the information output for having the viewer recognize that, if the program selected by processing in said selection step is verified as not being a program of a channel that is receivable, said program is not receivable,

a command step of commanding display of a chat; and

a chat display controlling step of controlling the display of a chat window so that, when display of the chat is commanded in said command step, the chat window display is not overlapped with the display of the electronic program guide;

~~a retrieval step of retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and~~

~~an icon display controlling step of controlling the display so that an icon associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded therein a computer-readable program, said program including

an acquisition step of acquiring data of an electronic program guide;

an electronic program guide display controlling step of controlling the display of said electronic program guide based on data of said electronic program guide acquired by

processing in said acquisition step;

    a selection step of selecting a preset program based on said electronic program guide controlled as to display by processing in said electronic program guide display controlling step;

    a verifying step of verifying whether or not said program selected by processing in said selecting step is a program of a channel that is receivable,

wherein the verifying step verifies that the program selected by the user may be received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user an alert message is displayed in the electronic program guide;

    an output information controlling step of controlling the information output for having the viewer recognize that, if the program selected by processing in said selection step is verified as not being a program of a channel that is receivable, said program is not receivable,

    a command step of commanding display of a chat; and

    a chat display controlling step of controlling the display of a chat window so that, when display of the chat is commanded in said command step, the chat window display is not overlapped with the display of the electronic program guide;

a retrieval step of retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and

an icon display controlling step of controlling the display so that an icon associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring data of an electronic program guide;  
first retrieval means for retrieving a program aired within a preset time as from  
the current time, based on the electronic program guide data acquired by said acquisition means;  
second retrieval means for retrieving the program aired at the current time, from  
the electronic program guide data acquired by said acquisition means;  
selection means for selecting one of retrieval by said first retrieval means and  
retrieval by said second retrieval means,

wherein the selection means verifies that the program selected by the user may be  
received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a  
program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user  
an alert message is displayed in the electronic program guide;

electronic program guide display controlling means for controlling the display of  
said electronic program guide based on retrieved results by said first retrieval means or retrieved  
results by said second retrieval means as selected by said selection means,

command means for commanding display of a chat; and  
chat display controlling means for controlling the display of a chat window so  
that, when display of the chat is commanded by said command means, the chat window display  
is not overlapped with the display of the electronic program guide;

~~retrieval means for retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program~~  
~~displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and~~  
~~icon display controlling means for controlling the display so that an icon~~  
~~associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~

8. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 7  
further comprising:

designating means for designating a program to be received based on said  
electronic program guide controlled as to display by said electronic program guide display  
controlling means.

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising:  
an acquisition step of acquiring data of an electronic program guide;  
a first retrieval step of retrieving a program aired within a preset time as from the  
current time, based on the electronic program guide data acquired by processing in said  
acquisition step;

a second retrieval step of retrieving the program aired at the current time, from the  
electronic program guide data acquired by processing in said acquisition step;  
a selection step of selecting one of retrieval by processing in said first retrieval  
step and retrieval by processing in said second retrieval step,

wherein the selection step verifies that the program selected by the user may be  
received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a  
program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user  
an alert message is displayed in the electronic program guide; and

an electronic program guide display controlling step of controlling the display of  
said electronic program guide based on retrieved results by processing in said first retrieval step  
or retrieved results by processing in said second retrieval step as selected by processing in said  
selection step,

a command step of commanding display of a chat; and  
a chat display controlling step of controlling the display of a chat window so that,  
when display of the chat is commanded in said command step, the chat window display is not  
overlapped with the display of the electronic program guide;  
~~a retrieval step of retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program  
displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and  
an icon display controlling step of controlling the display so that an icon  
associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a  
computer-readable program, said computer-readable program comprising:  
an acquisition step of acquiring data of an electronic program guide;  
a first retrieval step of retrieving a program aired within a preset time as from the  
current time, based on the electronic program guide data acquired by processing in said  
acquisition step;  
a second retrieval step of retrieving the program aired at the current time, from the  
electronic program guide data acquired by processing in said acquisition step;  
a selection step of selecting one of retrieval by processing in said first retrieval  
step and retrieval by processing in said second retrieval step,  
wherein the selection step verifies that the program selected by the user may be  
received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a  
program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user  
an alert message is displayed in the electronic program guide;

an electronic program guide display controlling step of controlling the display of said electronic program guide based on retrieved results by processing in said first retrieval step or retrieved results by processing in said second retrieval step as selected by processing in said selection step,

a command step of commanding display of a chat; and

a chat display controlling step of controlling the display of a chat window so that, when display of the chat is commanded in said command step, the chat window display is not overlapped with the display of the electronic program guide;

~~a retrieval step of retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and~~

~~an icon display controlling step of controlling the display so that an icon associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~

11-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:  
web information acquisition means for acquiring data of the web information;  
program information acquisition means for acquiring data of the program information being television broadcast,

wherein the acquisition means verifies that a program selected by the user may be received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user an alert message is displayed in electronic program guide data;

information display controlling means for controlling simultaneous display of said web information and the program information based on the data of the web information acquired by said web information acquisition means and the data of the program information acquired by said program information acquisition means;

changing means for changing said program information to be acquired, in a state in which said web information and the program information are displayed simultaneously,

command means for commanding display of a chat; and

chat display controlling means for controlling the display of a chat window so that, when display of the chat is commanded by said command means, the chat window display is not overlapped with the display of the web information and the program information;

~~retrieval means for retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and~~

~~icon display controlling means for controlling the display so that an icon associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~

16. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said changing means changes a broadcasting channel being received as said program information.

17. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 15 wherein said changing means erases a broadcasting channel being received as said program information.

18. (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising:

    a web information acquisition step for acquiring data of the web information;

    a program information acquisition step for acquiring data of the program

information being television broadcast;

    an information display controlling step for controlling simultaneous display of

    said web information and the program information based on the data of the web information

    acquired by processing in said web information acquisition step and the data of the program

    information acquired by processing in said program information acquisition step,

wherein the program acquisition step verifies that the program selected by the

user may be received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such

that when a program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified

by the user an alert message is displayed in electronic program guide data;

    a changing step for changing said program information to be acquired, in a state

    in which said web information and the program information are displayed simultaneously,

    a command step of commanding display of a chat; and

    a chat display controlling step of controlling the display of a chat window so that,

    when display of the chat is commanded in said command step, the chat window display is not

    overlapped with the display of the web information and the program information;

a retrieval step of retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program

displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and

an icon display controlling step of controlling the display so that an icon

associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.

19. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program, said computer-readable program comprising:

a web information acquisition step for acquiring data of the web information;

a program information acquisition step for acquiring data of the program

information being television broadcast;

an information display controlling step for controlling simultaneous display of said web information and the program information based on the data of the web information acquired by processing in said web information acquisition step and the data of the program information acquired by processing in said program information acquisition step,

wherein the program acquisition step verifies that the program selected by the user may be received in a broadcast territory, the broadcast territory identified by the user, such that when a program selected by the user may not be received in the broadcast territory identified by the user an alert message is displayed in electronic program guide data;

a changing step for changing said program information to be acquired, in a state in which said web information and the program information are displayed simultaneously,

a command step of commanding display of a chat; and

a chat display controlling step of controlling the display of a chat window so that, when display of the chat is commanded in said command step, the chat window display is not overlapped with the display of the web information and the program information;

~~a retrieval step of retrieving a chat room opened in association with a program displayed when said chat is commanded to be displayed by said command means; and~~

~~an icon display controlling step of controlling the display so that an icon associated with said chat room retrieved by said retrieval means is opened in said chat window.~~